

## ***CMCOG Summary of Regional Planning initiatives***

### ***Long Range Transportation Plan***

- Description: A regional vision of the transportation system in 30 years. The plan contains an inventory of: existing facilities, development control measures, capital improvements and financial resources, railroad rights-of-way, primary freight movement routes/corridors, existing transit routes, and para-transit service area boundaries.
- How It Helps AQ: Incorporates air quality issues into the project selection process, thus ensuring that projects funded and ultimately completed meet certain criteria that would not seriously adversely impact the region's air quality.
- Completion Date: Current plan adopted in 2003; Update scheduled for completion in the Fall 2008

### ***Transit Element of the COATS Long Range Transportation Plan***

- Description: Documents issues, opportunities, and strategies for continued development of public transit services in the Central Midlands region and serves as a guide for future transit planning efforts.
- How it Helps AQ: Promotes the use and development of transit related services as a viable mode of transportation and helps to reduce the number vehicles on the roadways.
- Completion Date: April 2005

### ***Bike and Pedestrian Pathways Plan***

- Description: Preserves and enhances the area's bicycling and pedestrian network, and seeks to improve the safety, attractiveness, and overall viability of cycling and walking as legitimate transportation alternatives in the COATS MPO area. Includes a list of 26 Early Action Projects that once completed will fill the critical gaps and critical needs in the existing system.
- How It Helps AQ: Promotes cycling and walking as viable modes of transportation. Encourages the fusion of land use with transportation in order to create more bike and pedestrian friendly places, especially around schools, jobs, residential, and commercial centers. Helps to reduce the number of vehicles on the roadways.
- Completion Date: May 2006

### ***Regional Motor Freight Transportation Plan***

Description: Assesses the current state of the region's freight transportation system, determines the needs of the systems' principal users; develops a strategic vision to guide future policy development, and recommends priority improvements to the system.

How It Helps AQ: Ensures efficiency of truck movement through our area. Lessens the amount of emissions and encourages retrofitting of truck engines to comply with air quality regulations.

Completion Date: Spring 2008

### ***Regional Congestion Management Plan***

Description: Assesses the current state of the region's congestion issues, determines the needs of the transportation system, develops a mitigation plan to guide future policy development, and recommends priority improvements to the system.

How It Helps AQ: Aids in air quality proficiency and makes our roadway system more efficient.

Completion Date: Spring 2008

### ***Lower Richland & White Knoll Sub-Area Plans; S-48 Columbia Ave Corridor Study***

Description: Develops multimodal transportation system solutions that meet the study area's transportation challenges and supports the preferred land use vision within the study area.

How It Helps AQ: Provides a vision for the target area's land use and transportation system, increasing opportunities for bicycling and walking and reduces congestion on roadways.

Completion Date: Lower Richland, Winter 2008; White Knoll, Spring 2008; S-48 – September 2006

### ***Human Service Coordination Plan***

Description: Enhances coordination with multiple Federal, State and local programs that fund human services transportation activities. SCDOT will be working with Councils of Governments (COGs) across South Carolina in the development of regional coordination plans, and will involve interested stakeholders throughout the process.

How It Helps AQ: Eliminates the duplication of transportation services, thereby reducing congestion and lessening number of vehicles on the roads.

Completion Date: Fall 2007

### ***Regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Coordination Plan***

Description: Develops a framework for how different ITS projects in the region fit together, encouraging stakeholder involvement in project planning, and promoting the use of common design and communication standards. A major goal is the integration of ITS projects so that data can be cost-effectively shared between projects and jurisdictions.

How It Helps AQ: Assists in identifying accident area; helps to reduce the number of vehicles on road near accident from sitting idle.

Completion Date: Spring 2008

### ***Commuter Rail Feasibility Study for the Central Midlands Region of South Carolina***

Description: Assesses the feasibility of commuter rail and other high capacity transit modes (such as Bus Rapid Transit) in the Central Midlands Region. The plan outlines a series of steps that can be taken now to build toward future high-capacity transit service, such as promoting Transit Oriented Development (TOD) around proposed station locations.

How it Helps AQ: Raises the demand for transit ridership and helps to reduce the number of vehicles on the roadway. TOD promotes bike and pedestrian friendly communities and supports the development of a multi-modal transportation system.

Completion Date: June 2006

### ***Green Infrastructure Plan***

Description: Develops regional plan for preservation of open space. Creates a network of protected lands within the region that will be a legacy for future generations.

How It Helps AQ: Cuts down on urban sprawl and overdevelopment by encouraging the protection of open space (e.g. woodlands and working farm land). Forested areas, in particular, help to filter air pollution and provide cooling, both important for improving air quality over time.

Completion Date: Spring 2008